



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

DECEMBER 2014

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 12

BVARC DECEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, December 11, 2014

2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478, Eldridge Park Conference Center

If You Build It...

As we do every December, the BVARC general membership meeting will be devoted to the home brewers. In December we welcome those courageous souls with their golden tool boxes, endless imaginations and boundless curiosity. To the fearless hams who void warranties in the pursuit of the "what happens if...", we will open the floor. Come to the December meeting and bring the projects that you have been working on throughout the year. Share your successes and if you are really brave, share the failures too.

We encourage everyone to come and support the tinkerers of the amateur radio hobby. Perhaps you will discover a project to take on yourself. So, come join us as we share in the creative inspirations of our fellow amateurs and partake in some excellent ham radio camaraderie.



November Meeting Recap – Chili and Politics

The weather during the November general membership meeting was perfect for a chili supper. We had twelve pots of chili, more cornbread than an entire ham radio club can consume and even a few tasty deserts. November is also our opportunity as a club to vote in our newest members for the Board of Directors. Unfortunately, even with all of that excellent food, we were not able to get enough members for the quorum required to vote. Therefore, the nominees were approved by those members in attendance and the current BoD will vote in the new members during the December BoD meeting. As always, BVARC members are encouraged to come to the Board meeting and help contribute to the future of the club.



ANNUAL BANQUET

The Annual Awards Banquet will be held on January 16th, 2015 at Maggiano's Little Italy, 2010 Post Oak Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77056. Cocktails and drinks will begin at 6 PM in the Tuscany Room on the second floor of the restaurant. An elevator is available. There will be a cash bar.

Banquet tickets are \$25 per person. Advance reservations only. Sorry; we have to provide the restaurant with a firm headcount in advance. **All payments must be received no later than January 9th.** Checks or payments received after that date will be returned.

You may purchase your tickets by PayPal or check payable to BVARC. Mail checks to:
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2997
Sugar Land, Texas 77487-2997

A three course meal with an Italian flair will be served. Guests will have a choice of appetizers and entrees.

The balance of the program and menu details will be announced as we get closer to the banquet date.

From the President, Bill Stone, WS5H

Greetings to BVARC and the Amateur Radio Community,

December is now upon us and Oh What Fun with the December General Membership meeting Home Brew Night to show off those innovative self made projects, favorite build kits and even your achievements with a favorite antenna project and radio mods. Check with our program director VP Michael Wrenn K5WRN to schedule in your project for show and tell.

Every December Holiday season I like to remind all about a video link suggestive of Ham Radio and Christmas. See link below

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_9REVC4dtc

Your BoD had elected Ron K5HM as Chairman for our January Banquet and with his service work we will have a great location for Banquet and a great menu for our traditional Awards Banquet Dinner. See details in this edition of our club newsletter. Sign up for reservations for our banquet on our BVARC web site. We need to know how many to attend so let us know. You will see the club has again offset the cost of the dinner by covering ½ of the expense for the member and 1st guest. Speaking of Awards, please send in writing/email your nomination of a member to be considered for the Order of the Key, Dr Bill, the Loop and Zepp award, and the new VHF award to any BOD member and the Prez. Special Service Recognition Awards and Appreciation Awards will also be considered. The cut off date for nominations is our December general membership meeting.

The newsletter in December is a full plate of information so before I sign out I wish to convey an email received. Some members have mentioned the thought that our web site and email reflector is not looked at by many in the Amateur Radio Community. The email below seems to show our emails and web site get a good reading and following. Thanks for the email Ray and have fun with the new amp.

"Bill. Thank you and your club members for the great hf amplifier slide show online. I learned a lot. I just got a raytrack dx2000l. Now comes the scary part, tuning it and putting it on the air. Thanks my friend...kb6lqv Ray in Fresno, ca"

Happy Holidays to All
73 Bill Stone
WS5H
BVARC 2014-2015 President



Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm** on 146.94 (167.9). The order of check-ins start with mobile units first then fixed stations. If you have something for the net, make sure you let Net Control know about it when you check in. We are looking for Net Control Operators. Contact any officer of BVARC if you are interested. Here are recent check-ins with control-ops:

8/11 - 20 - Rick, w5rh	9/15 - 17 - Ron, k5hm	10/20 - 21 - Ron, k5hm
8/18 - 35 - Ron, k5hm	9/22 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx	10/27 - 23 - Pete, kd5qpx
8/25 - 19 - Pete, kd5qpx	9/29 - 16 - Dave, n5ekw	11/3 - 42 - Bill, ws5h
9/1 - 18 - Cam, k5cam	10/6 - 30 - Cam, k5cam	11/10 - 29 - Rick, w5rh
9/8 - 25 - Rick, w5rh	10/13 - 24 - Rick, w5rh	11/17 - 31 - Ron, k5hm



Greater Houston Hamfest – March 28, 2015

Things are moving along at a feverish pace for the Greater Houston Hamfest. The website is preliminary, but constantly being updated as things get finalized. If you haven't volunteered to help during the preparation (between now and the event) or during the event, please do so as that is the greatest limitation in making this happen. Contact the new Chairperson, Nathan Vessey, N5NYV, at gghamfest@att.net or (c) 832-603-1535

The Radio Hotel - SWR/Matching & Learning More by W5RH

In the past 7 months I have tried to show how the antenna system's components all work together and how they interact. The Radio Hotel column's subjects all centered around the SWR – Standing Wave Ratio. Much more detail in the system's workings needs to be understood in order to get a complete picture. Back in the 80's, when I was relearning RF electronics, it took me quite awhile for all of this to make sense with all of the interactions that are happening. I truly hope that it takes you much less time than I. Once you understand the theory it's great, as you can immediately apply that knowledge to any antenna system situation and understand what that system is trying to accomplish and how it is doing it. Another nice thing is that you will stop worrying so much about SWR and the "bad things" that it brings. You will take care of what you can using the best components and just operate.

So, the final step in this series on SWR is for you to extend your knowledge beyond that given in **The Radio Hotel** over the past 7 months. This is where you come in and take over with some extracurricular reading material. I will recommend 3 of my favorite books about transmission lines and the "system" that are worth their weight in knowledge gold:

- 1) ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners – Joel Hallas – W1ZR ARRL 2012 (very practical)
- 2) Reflections (1, 2 or 3) – Walt Maxwell (particularly applicable Ham Radio based theory)
(the free 1967 QST series will do just fine)
- 3) Antennas, Transmission Lines and Wave Guides -- King, Mimno and Chen (1947)
(includes -the secret ingredient of the infamous W5GI "Mystery Antenna")

(Note: I have also compiled a listing of a substantial bibliography of the articles I read and referenced to write this series on SWR. You can find that list on the BVARC.org website – Click on the "Tech Articles" page link in the Home page left side listing then on that page find **The Radio Hotel Bibliography.pdf**)

If any of the above books don't quite do it for you, there are many others, like the ARRL Antenna Handbook (any issue, 1939 to the present). You should realize that one author might sound like jibberish, but another explaining the same thing, will grab you with clarity. Some enjoy Hemmingway, others like Bill Bryson. Choose an author and writing style that suits your knowledge fancy. (This is a hobby, not a graduate course) If you are like me you will not "get it" on the first read (I do hope you do though). I take the advice of the late Dr. Richard Feynman about understanding: take one sentence, or fact, at a time, understand it, and then build on it and its' interaction with the next fact.

Some software would be good too. There are 2 TL application calculators that I can recommend. TLW, by Dean Straw, from the ARRL – usually on the Antenna Handbook DVD. Also TL Details, by Dan Maguire, AC6LA, downloadable ZIP file from the web at <http://www.ac6la.com/tldetails1.html>. Both of these applications are really sweet TL calculators and they will show you a whole lot about transmission lines and matching. Little by little...step by step...inch by inch....it will all start to make sense. Good luck.

Finally, if I had a bit of wisdom to impart about antennas it would be 2 things -- 1) that antennas should always be looked at as a "system" consisting of transmission lines, matching networks and the antennas themselves; and 2) a firm grasp of the fundamental principles and characteristics of antennas and transmission lines is absolutely essential for it to all make sense. If a working knowledge of antenna systems is what you want, then find yourself an "Antenna Elmer" who can answer your questions and banter with you knowledgeably in discussion.

I hope you have enjoyed this first series in **The Radio Hotel**. (If not, please, let me know your comments) I hope to start up again soon and talk specifically about antennas. Why they work, how they work and their varying characteristics. Here's hoping that you get a good antenna or transmission line book from Santa. Happy Holidays to you and yours, whichever holiday you celebrate. 73.....Rick – W5RH

*The purpose of **The Radio Hotel** is to give you a practical kickstart into exploring the workings of antenna systems. It is a series, so go back and read the previous columns to get the whole picture, as one month relies on the previous month's information. Google the buzz words and find out what they mean. Read up on antenna system theory to see how it all works together. You will be glad you did.*

Radiosport Items of Note for December 2014

For a complete list of contests click the link below:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

QSO Parties – An easy way to try a contest for the first time. State QSO Parties are relaxed events. If you happen to need these states for WAS, they are a great way to work states to work states you can't easily find on the bands otherwise.

- **ARRL Centennial QSO Party Ends 0000Z Jan 1st 2015**
- No State QSO Parties in December
- Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party Dec 20th – Jan 1st

Mixed Mode Contests

- ARRL EME Contest Dec 6th – 7th
- ARRL 10 Meter Contest Dec 13th – 14th
- RAC Winter Contest Dec 27th
- Worldwide Iron Ham Contest Dec 27th – Dec 28th

SSB Contests

- No SSB Only Contests in December

CW Contests

- ARRL 160 Meter Contest Dec 5th -78th
- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon Dec 13th – 14th
- ARRL Rookie Roundup CW Dec 20th – Dec 21st

Digital Contests

- Ukrainian DX Contest PSK63 Dec 6th – 7th
- 10 Meter RTTY Contest Dec 7th

Selected Special Event Activities

W!AW portable operation – Work toward W1AW WAS by working W1AW portable in every state. December is the final month of W1AW Portable Centennial operation. This is your last chance to work these states. Scheduled in December week beginning are:

Dec 3rd – Illinois; Maine

Dec 10th – Indiana; Montana

Dec 17th – Maryland; Hawaii; Georgia

Dec 24th – Pennsylvania; Iowa

ARRL Straight Key Night – Jan 1st 0000Z- 2359Z ; <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

XM3G - 200th Anniversary of Treaty of Ghent – Ending the War of 1812 Dec 6th – Jan 6th

N0C – 73rd Anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol Dec 6th

W2W – Pearl Harbor Commemoration Dec 5th – Dec 13th

For details on every Special Event in November, go to

http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:3/Date.start:2014-12-01/Date.end:2014-12-31/model:Event

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM

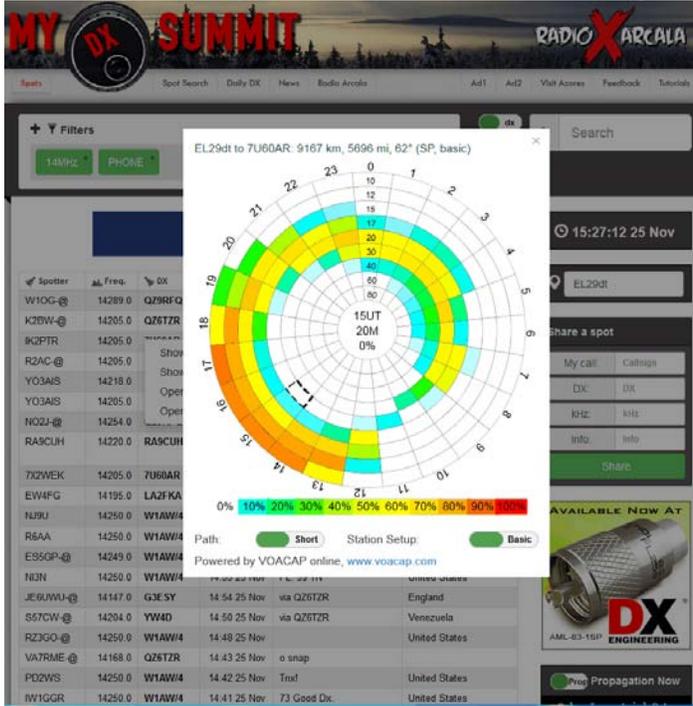


Upgraded My DX Summit Launched November 21st

Many of you know and use the popular DX web site, DX Summit (www.dxsummit.fi) during the current ARRL Centennial QSO Party and for hunting DX during contests and DXpeditions.

A major upgrade of the popular DX Cluster launched worldwide on November 21st at 1000 UTC. The upgraded site will automatically replace the current dx Summit at the same URL, www.dxsummit.fi.

Since the Radio Arcala group, launched the original DX Summit in 1998, more than 135,000 unique users visit the site each month. Over 500 beta test users were involved in the testing and provided ideas for future enhancements.



The upgraded version, introduced a fresh lineup of features including a handy propagation tool, integrating the popular VOACAP propagation model, access to the gray line map, QRZ.com and Club Log

Predicted propagation based on your personal location is available for each spot. By clicking on a DX spot you will see the current conditions and a 24-hour window covering all bands from your station, short and long path, to the distant DX location.

In the picture at left, I clicked on the spot for 7U60AR (Algeria) at 1530 UTC. The pop up shows that propagation for this particular spot is practically nil for me (Grid EL29) on 20 meters. In fact, my chances are much better on 10 or 12 meters at this time as noted by the color coding. Too bad he is not on those bands but if I'm interested in working that part of the world this morning, that is where I should be listening.

The list of spots can be filtered by clicking on the Filters button at the top. Each filter setting or combination generates a unique URL. You can save filter settings by

bookmarking the specific URL associated with your settings in your browser.

Mobile users are also extensively supported which makes the new DX Summit the first ever mobile-ready DX Cluster, according to Radio Arcala's recent press release. .

Ken Claerbout, K4ZW will host a Webinar in early December with Radio Arcala specialists ready to explain the essence of MY DX SUMMIT and its propagation prediction tools. Santa Claus will appear on the portal in December before embarking on his world tour from the frozen landscape of the North.

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM



Silent Key: The Club mourns the passing of Robert ("Doc") Moore, KK5UO, in late October. He was 87. He was a veteran of WWII and later became a dentist. He was a member of several service organizations including the Boy Scouts, winning service awards. A true hobbyist including astronomy (built his own telescopes), model railroading, and ham radio. A member of BVARC for a very long time, he was very active until health issues slowed him. Doc contributed much to the growth of the club and he is missed.

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Results of the November 11th BVARC Amateur License Examination Session by: John Moore, KK5NU

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford, TX.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
John Moore, KK5NU
George Ontko, KM5VP

There were no candidates to show up for the session.

Due to ongoing construction in the area of the campus that we are usually assigned a room, we were moved to a section of the campus within the area of ongoing student activities.

We had several inquiries from passersby students about what amateur radio had to offer.

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month. All of us at B-VARC again thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Science & Technology Building for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

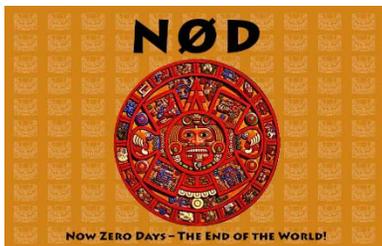
..... 73

New KK5W QSL Card
Ron Litt, K5HM



I am pleased to announce the winner of the Great KK5W QSL Card design contest is Theresa Williams, KE5MUX. Theresa is also the club's QSL Manager. Earlier this year we ran out of KK5W QSL Cards. As a result of various activities using the club call, the number of requests for KK5W QSL's has dramatically increased.

This past September we announced the Great KK5W QSL Card Contest. The winner, selected from the dozens of entries was Theresa. As a result of her efforts, she also won a \$25 gift card.



The new card shown above was printed by Randy Dorman, KB3IFH. Individual QSO information is printed on the reverse side. Randy also printed the NOD QSL Card which was used for our successful Doomsday Special Event and the KK5W Museum Ships QSL Cards.

Congratulations Theresa and thanks for your service to the club as QSL Manager.





Minutes of the November Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bill Stone called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to at 7:07PM on November 13 2014 at Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston 77074.

Attending were:

Bill Stone WS5H (Pres), Michael Wrenn K5WRN (V.P.), Bob Tomlinson N5JSL (Cor.Sec./Treas.), Michael Monsour ACØTX (Rec.Sec./Quart.), Ron Litt K5HM (2yr At-Large Dir.& Radio Sport), Jerry Muller KF5EYC (2yr At-Large Dir.), Nathan Vessey N5NYV (1yr at Large Dir) [via audio/video link], Rick Hiller W5RH, Norma Stone KE5NDN

Announcements:

- 1.1 There was a donation of miscellaneous odds and ends given to BVARC. There were monetary donations by some members for selected items. The rest will appear at the next BVARC meeting for give away.
- 1.2 The Board meeting space has been secured for 2015 except for January, which is New Years Day.
- 1.3 Ron Litt K5HM will submit to the Board the 2015 Budget, which will be voted on.

Reports:

- 2.1 A motion was made and passed to accept the Minutes as printed in the Newsletter.
- 2.2 A motion was made and passed to accept the Treasurers report. The Treasurer will be out of town from November 21 to December 5.
- 2.3 A motion was made and passed to accept the Budget Report from Ron Litt K5HM.
- 2.4 Nathan Vessey N5NYV via video link gave a report for the Hamfest. Nathan commented that someone else is calling vendors causing confusion. This needs to be a coordinated effort. A visit to the site will be made. The Makers Fair is interested in coming out to the Hamfest. Nathan N5NYV and Stephanie K5SRV Vessey, Michael Wrenn K5WRN and Michael Monsour ACØTX were out at the BVARC booth at the Makers Fair. The BVARC flag is stored in the antenna trailer.
- 2.5 Rick Hiller W5RH gave a report on the election and who is running at that point in time.

Old Business:

- 3.1 Banquet locations were discussed. Previously Ron Litt K5HM volunteered to be chairman of the committee to locate the banquet site. Last years banquet consumed half the Hamfest profits and this cannot continue. Need to find a site that is economical and has good and plentiful food.
- 3.2 Discussion concerning the election and a 25% quorum is needed. There are a total of 225 members. There was a discussion of checking people's club status and how to do it.

New Business:

- 4.1 Bill Stone WS5H announced a possible new membership drive idea but that was after having a lunch meeting with three members, two of whom are in the Membership Committee. Ron Litt K5HM took great exception saying Bill Stone is going around the Membership Committee. Bill Stone said he has not heard from the Membership Committee. Nathan Vessey N5NYV commented that he had a sign up list at the Makers Fair.
- 4.2 Later Bill Stone recounted how he met with three members and named them, two of which are in the membership committee, Ron Litt again took great exception and resigned from the Membership Committee and kept repeating that he resigned from the Membership Committee "I quit, I am done". Nathan Vessey recalled that two of the members that Bill Stone met with are on the Membership Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Michael Monsour ACØTX



THE BVARC Rag Chew Net November Check-ins

10/29/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5HFF, W5TKZ, K5IZO, KE5OBY (R), W5TOM, K5LJ, KF5PHA, KF5TFJ, NM5K, WB9FOP (Katy), AA0ST (Dickenson), W5RH.

(13 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 167, SN = 109, A = 14, K = 2

11/05/14, W5TKZ (NCS), K5LKJ, W5HFF, KF5OXF (Needville), KF5TFJ, K5IZO, KE5OBY (R), AA5OA, KK2Z (Burnet), K5LJ, WS5H, AC0TX/5 (Houston)(P), W5RCP (Putnam), WA5RAC, KF5TVQ (Spiro, OK), W5RH. (16 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 135, SN = 99, A = 17, K = 3

11/12/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TOM, KF5TFJ, W5TKZ, W5HFF, W5JZO (Leesville, LA), K5IZO/5 (Jasper)(P), KE5OBY (R), K5LJ, W5RCP (Putnam), W5RH, AA5OA, KD5CDM, AA0ST (Dickenson), KC5JAR (Katy). (15 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 142, SN = 70, A = 12, K = 1

11/19/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, W5TOM, KF5TFJ, W5HFF, KF5OXF (Needville), AA5OA, KE5OBY (R), K5LJ, KK2Z (Burnet), KC5JAR (Katy).

(11 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 170, SN = 92, A = 11, K = 1

Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (RCS) = remote controlled station (T) = telephone check-in

Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ



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BVARC Historical Vignettes – The Greater Houston Hamfest

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

One of the most important BVARC activities is the Greater Houston Hamfest (GHH); this annual event funds the club's activities throughout the year. The GHH actually began as the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club MIX 'n' MATCH SWAP MEET.

The first mention of the MIX 'n' MATCH SWAP MEET appeared in the March 2003 club newsletter with an announcement of the 2nd Annual MIX 'n' MATCH SWAP MEET being held 8 AM to 12:00 noon at the Sugar Land Community Center. It is likely that the first MIX 'n' MATCH SWAP MEET was held in 2002 but it is not mentioned in the 2002 club newsletters. In 2006 the name of the MIX 'n' MATCH SWAP MEET was changed to the Greater Houston Hamfest (GHH).

The first GHH was held in the Sugar Land Community Center. The club leadership soon recognized that a larger venue was needed, and in 2007 the GHH was moved to the current location at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds in Rosenberg. GHH has been at that location for the past eight years. Many club members are aware that John Chauvin, K5IZO, has chaired or co-chaired GHH for the past eight years, and the BVARC of Board of Directors has recognized his significant contribution to our club by awarding John an (honorary) lifetime membership in our club.

The GHH has a bright future. Nathan (N5NYV) and Stephanie (K5SFV) Vessey have stepped forward to chair the GHH. They have presented a multi-year plan to the BVARC Board of Directors including the possibility of expanding GHH to include use of an additional building. After 13 years, our club's hamfest continues to be a vibrant and growing hamfest.



About the Mini Makers Faire



On November the 13th a few members of BVARC were invited to participate in the Houston Mini Makers Faire at the Stafford Center. Makers Faire describes itself as a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker movement. It's a place where people show what they are making, and share what they are learning. Makers range from tech enthusiasts to crafters to homesteaders to scientists to garage tinkerers. They are of all ages and backgrounds. The aim of Maker Faire is to entertain, inform, connect and grow this community. This makes the faire a great natural showcase for Amateur Radio. So for the 2014 Houston Mini Makers Faire BVARC was there to demonstrate Amateur radio, introduce BVARC, and recruit potential new

BVARC members. Five members of BVARC were able to attend. Michael Wren K5WRN, Michael Monsour AC0TX, Ron Litt K5HM, and Nathan and Stephanie Vessey N5NYV K5SFV. It turns out that Mini Makers and Ham Radio go very well together. The faire was well attended by every type of home hobbyist including many interested in electronics and robotics. We spoke to many people and gathered a list of some who were interested in learning more about Ham Radio and BVARC. We will look forward to reaching out to many other shows to spread the word.



**Where in the World is
Western Sahara (S0)
CQ Zone 33**

No, not Best Western Sahara, it is really Western Sahara.



Formerly Spanish Morocco, it is disputed territory on the West Coast of Africa, roughly Southeast of the Kingdom of Morocco. Occupied by Spain since the late 19th century, the Spanish relinquished control of the area in 1975. Since then, two thirds of the country has been claimed by Morocco as part of what is calls the Southern Provinces.

A war then erupted between Morocco and the Sahrawi national liberation movement, who proclaimed the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). Morocco eventually secured effective control of most of the territory, including all the major cities and natural resources.

Western Sahara's economy is based almost entirely on fishing and phosphate mining which employs two thirds of its work force.

A largely Saharan desert landscape and climate, 40% the country's population of roughly 500,000 live in the city of Laâyoune near the Atlantic Ocean.

Ham Radio is still in its infancy here. QRZ.com reports only 5 licensed call signs including S01WS, which belongs to the Sahrawi Amateur Radio Union URS.



According to Club Log, Western Sahara is the 73rd most wanted DX entity.



Hamfests

(within 200 miles of Houston)

Hamfest info for the next few months. More information at: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>

01/10/2015 | San Antonio Radio Club Fiesta

Location: Schertz, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club

Website: <http://w5sc.org>

03/14/2015 | WC ARC SwapFest

Location: Georgetown, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Williamson County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.WCARC.com>

03/28/2015 | Texas State Convention (Greater Houston Hamfest)

Location: Rosenberg, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.houstonhamfest.org/>

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club. For a full listing of officers and information about BVARC, please go to www.bvarc.org. Detailed information will be published in the newsletter every 3 months.

General membership dues are \$25.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, additional family members \$5.00 per member per year.

Club meetings are normally held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Eldridge Park Conference Center, 2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478. Check the above website for any possible changes.

BVARC also administers amateur radio license exams on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston Community College's Scarcella campus in Stafford.

A Public Service Net is held each Monday at 8 p.m. on the 146.94 (minus offset, PL 167.9 tone) repeater.

A rag chew net is held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. on 3910 KHz +/- 3 KHz.

To obtain information about joining **BVARC** or its activities, contact the club's "Elmer," Ross Lawler, W5HFF at 281-701-7602 or see the BVARC website: www.bvarc.org

Other contacts include:

President:, Bill Stone, WS5H, dragntow@wt.net

Newsletter Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, k5izo@yahoo.com

VOLUME 38, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2014

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

December General Membership Meeting – December 11.



If your mailing label is highlighted in color, it's time to renew your membership!